CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims to the application.

1. (previously presented) A process for making a fiber product, comprising

providing never–dried, waste fiber from a virgin fiber source;

dewatering said waste fiber; and

drying said waste fiber utilizing a substantial portion of recovered heat from a pulping source.

2. (original) The process of Claim 1, wherein a treatment substance is added to the fiber.

3. (original) The process of Claim 2, wherein said treatment substance comprises sodium silicate.

4. (previously presented) The process of Claim 2, wherein said treatment substance comprises-a surfactant.

5. (previously presented) The process of Claim 1, wherein said dewatering step comprises passing the waste fiber through a screw press.

6. (canceled)

7. (canceled)

8. (original)   The process of claim 1, wherein said drying step comprises the use of belt dryer.

9. (original)   The process of claim 1, wherein the fiber product is used for animal bedding.

10.   (previously presented) A process for making animal bedding fiber agglomerations, comprising:

providing never-dried waste fiber from a virgin fiber source;

dewatering said waste fiber; and

drying said waste fiber utilizing a substantial portion of recovered heat from a pulping process;

wherein the animal bedding fiber agglomerations retain their bulk, fibrous structure and appearance.

11.   (canceled)

12.   (previously presented) The process of Claim 10, wherein a treatment substance is added to the fiber.

13.   (previously presented) The process of Claim 12, wherein said treatment substance comprises sodium silicate.

14.   (previously presented) The process of Claim 12, wherein said treatment substance comprises a surfactant.

15.   (previously presented) The process of Claim 12, wherein said dewatering step comprises passing the waste fiber through a screw press.

16.   (previously presented) The process of claim 12, wherein said drying step comprises the use of belt dryer.